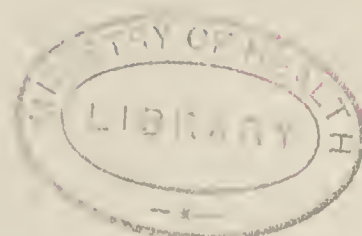


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WELSH BOARD OF HEALTH  
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21 APR 1926



BRECON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.  
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ANNUAL REPORT  
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of the  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
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Dr. T. P. Thomas.  
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for the year  
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1925.  
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TO THE BRECON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT  
1925.



Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report upon the Health and Sanitary Conditions of your district for the year 1925.

The Urban District comprises the Parishes of St. John's, St. Mary's and St. David's. The Rivers Usk and Honddu join each other in the Town. Brecon has a Cathedral, a large Public School and is the Depot of the 24th Regiment.

1. GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (acres) -	-	-	-	-	-	2868.
Population (1921 Census) -	-	-	-	-	-	5649.
Number of inhabited houses (1925) -	-	-	-	-	-	1346.
Number of families or separate occupiers (1925) approximately -	-	-	-	-	-	1489.
Rateable Value -	-	-	-	-	-	£24,460.
Sum represented by a penny rate -	-	-	-	-	-	£101-18-4.

2. EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

Estimated population 1925 - For Death Rate -	-	5479.
" " 1925 - For Birth Rate -	-	5689.

Births.

	Male.	Female.	Total.	Grand Total.	Birth Rate.
Legitimate - - -	39	59	98		
Illegitimate - - -	3	2	5	103	18.1

This rate is lower than that for England and Wales which is 18.3.

Deaths.

Male.	Female.	Total.	Death Rate.
25	28	53	9.6

This rate is lower than that for England and Wales which is 12.2.

Number of women dying in, or in consequence of childbirth, -

from Sepsis - Nil. Other causes - Nil.

	Number.	Rate per 1,000 births.
Deaths of infants ) Legitimate - - -	3	29.1
under 1 year of age) Illegitimate - - -	1	9.7
	<u>4</u>	<u>38.8</u>

This Infantile Mortality Rate is lower than that for England and Wales which is 75, and a very pleasing feature.





Deaths from-Number.    Rate.

Measles (all ages)	-	-	-	Nil	--
Whooping Cough (all ages)	-	-	-	1	0.18
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	-	-	-	Nil	--
Tuberculosis (all forms)	-	-	-	6	1.09
Cancer	-	-	-	6	1.09

Transferable Deaths.- Two persons belonging to this district died outside the district during the year and 16 persons belonging to outside districts died within the district.

## 3. NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

<u>Disease.</u>	<u>Total cases notified.</u>	<u>Cases admitted to Hospital.</u>	<u>Total Deaths.</u>
Scarlet Fever	5	-	Nil
Diphtheria	8	3	1
Tuberculosis-			
Pulmonary	14	7	4
Non-Pulmonary	3	3	2

## 4. CAUSES OF SICKNESS.

None of special importance.

## 5. NURSING ARRANGEMENTS.

Professional Nursing in the Home.-

(a) General. The Brecon Nursing Association provide a District Nurse who does general nursing in the Parishes of St. John and St. Mary and carried out her duties very satisfactorily. There is now a District Nurse for the Parish of St. David's and parts of the Rural District whose services are freely used and much appreciated.

(b) For Infectious Diseases.- None.

Midwives.- There is no subsidy by the Public Health Authority. Six trained midwives practice in the district and are ample for the requirements.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.- Only for cases of Tuberculosis which are treated by the Welsh National Memorial Association and cases of Venereal Diseases which are transferred to the Clinic at Swansea. Easier financial methods are recommended for sending these patients to Swansea.

Hospitals provided or subsidised by the Local Authority or by the County Council.- There is an Isolation Hospital situated  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles from the Town which is kept in constant readiness for use. The accommodation available is three wards of 32 beds. This Hospital was primarily intended for cases of Smallpox and would be used as such if necessary. The Hospital was open in the year for Diphtheria cases in July and August, and again in December. A Special Report was made of Sanitary and other improvements. The new County War Memorial Hospital has been commenced during the year and it is believed that a few beds will be reserved here for maternity cases.

Ambulance Facilities.- None at present.

1. Introduction

2. Methodology

3. Results

4. Discussion

5. Conclusion

6. References

7. Appendix

Table 1		Table 2		Table 3	
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## 6. LABORATORY WORK.

All the necessary Laboratory work was carried out by the Clinical Research Association, London. Diphtheria Antitoxin is provided for the poorer patients.

Adoptive Acts.-- The Public Health Acts (Amendment Act), 1890, has been adopted. Chickenpox has been compulsorily notifiable in the district since August 1902. New Byelaws with regard to New Streets and Buildings were made and approved by the Ministry of Health on 21st May 1924.

## 7. SANITARY ARRANGEMENTS.

The Sewerage Scheme is a water carried one and all except 5 of the houses are drained to the sewers.

The Water Supply is drawn from the Brecon Beacons and stored in a Reservoir outside the Town. It is ample and excellent; but I am advised that new filters are required at the waterworks.

The places where food is prepared are inspected and found to be satisfactory. 34 Tins of food and 80 lbs of beef unfit for human consumption were destroyed.

There is still no Steam Disinfector provided. All places where Infectious Disease occurs are disinfected as far as possible.

A Register is kept and periodical inspections made of all Cowsheds and Dairies. These are satisfactory and the quality of the milk very good. There is, however, still room for improvement in the cleanliness of the milkers' hands and more attention to this is necessary.

The Public Slaughter House is regularly inspected and under the control of the Council. The general conditions here can not be described as altogether satisfactory. There are no private slaughter houses in the area.

The Common Lodging House is also inspected and is very satisfactory.

With Smallpox still prevalent in the Country, Vaccination is necessary and strongly recommended.

There were no Schools closed during the year on account of epidemics.

## 8. PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

The Public Health Staff consists of a Medical Officer of Health (part-time) and a Sanitary Inspector.

## 9. HOUSING.

The Housing conditions are generally good but there are still a few isolated cases where the accommodation is unsatisfactory and the houses almost unfit for human habitation. It is considered that the erection of several new houses is necessary. Two cases of overcrowding have occurred, been reported and remedied.

Number of new houses erected during the year --

(a) Total -	-	-	-	-	9.
(b) As part of a municipal grant scheme-completed 31-12-25	-	-	-	-	9.
(c) Houses in course of erection under the municipal grant	-	-	-	-	
		scheme	-	-	4.
(d) House in course of erection, not part of scheme	-	-	-	-	1.





1. Unfit dwelling-houses - Inspection.
  - (1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (made under Public Health or Housing Acts) - - - 52.
  - (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910- 14.
  - (3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation - - - - - 0.
  - (4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation - - - - 18.
2. Remedy of defects without service of formal notices - Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers - 2.
3. Action under Statutory Powers.-
  - A.-Proceedings under Section 28 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c. Act, 1919.-
    - (1) Number of houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs - - - - - 12.
    - (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit-
      - (a) by owners - - - - - 12;
      - (b) by Local Authority in default of owners - - - - 0.
    - (3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close - - - - - 0.
  - B.- Proceedings under Public Health Acts.-
    - (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied- - - - - 29.
    - (2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which defects were remedied-
      - (a) by owners - - - - - 29.
      - (b) by Local Authority in default of owners - - - - 0.
  - C.- Proceedings under Sections 17 and 18 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1909.-
    - (1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders - - - - - 0.
    - (2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made - - - - - 0.
    - (3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit - - - - - 0.
    - (4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made - - - - - 0.
    - (5) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders - - - - - 0.

Yours faithfully,

T. F. THOMAS.

Medical Officer of Health.

Bank House,  
Brecon.  
April 17th 1926.





Supplementary Report  
1925.



Sanitary Inspection.

Sanitary remedial measures in connection with nuisances arising from defective drainage and sanitary fittings have been effected in the case of 32 dwelling houses.

One case of overcrowding has been reported and remedied.

All disinfection after infectious disease has been performed.

The Home Office notices relating to Factories and Workshops have been attended to.

34 tins of food unfit for human consumption have been destroyed and 80 lbs. of beef seized and destroyed.

The Registered Common Lodging House has been regularly inspected and is in very good order.

Slaughter House.

The unsatisfactory conditions alluded to were:-

- (1) An earth closet used by the slaughtermen - this is about to be remedied as the Corporation have agreed to the construction of a proper water closet with requisite drainage to sewer.
- (2) Lairing of animals in wrong compartments and for too long periods, by the butchers - this matter has come before the Butchers Committee and is being remedied.
- (3) Improvement in the whiteliming arrangements needed - is to be done by direct labour instead of by contract.
- (4) Insufficient facilities for storing hides and horns - the Council are contemplating erecting a special building at a distance from the meat cooling houses, for this purpose.

Milk Supply.

Periodical inspections are made of the dairies and cowsheds in the Borough and many improvements have been effected under notice from the Local Authority. Samples of milk are taken by the County Council's Official.

Schools and Poor Law.

Not administered by Borough Council excepting the periodical inspection of the Sanitary arrangements of Schools.

Rivers and Streams.

There is some slight pollution of rivers, during the summer months when the River Honddu is low on account of house refuse being deposited therein and also by reason of the tar spraying of roads.

Scavenging.

Is carried out by direct labour under the control of the Borough Surveyor - daily in the principal parts of the Town and twice weekly in all the outskirts.

/Meat



CONFIDENTIAL REPORT  
1955

General Description

Embassy residential quarters in Washington, D.C. have been selected for the purpose of this study. The house of 23 dwelling units.

One case of overpopulation has been reported and recorded. All districts after inspection have been destroyed. The home office notices regarding the situation and conditions have been attached to.

The line of food and the human environment have been destroyed and 60 lbs. of food and clothing.

The limited human living space was very seriously affected and is in very poor order.

General Survey

The investigation conditions are as follows:-

- (1) In order to obtain data on the situation - this is done by a survey of the situation and the situation is very serious. A survey of the situation and the situation is very serious.
- (2) Location of the house is very important. The house is located in a very important area. The house is located in a very important area.
- (3) Improvement in the situation is very important. The house is located in a very important area. The house is located in a very important area.
- (4) Investigation facilities for the situation are very important. The house is located in a very important area. The house is located in a very important area.

Site Survey

General inspection and survey of the situation and the situation is very serious. The house is located in a very important area. The house is located in a very important area.

Location and Survey

Notwithstanding the fact that the situation is very serious, the house is located in a very important area. The house is located in a very important area.

River and Survey

There is some slight pollution of the river, but the water is clean. The river is located in a very important area. The river is located in a very important area.

General Survey

It is noted that the situation is very serious. The house is located in a very important area. The house is located in a very important area.



### Meat Inspection.

Systematic inspection of meat at the public abattoir, shops and market are made. 80 lbs of beef were destroyed during the year.

Causes of Death. The following table gives the causes of death during the year:-

<u>Causes of Death.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total</u>
Whooping Cough	1	-	1
Diphtheria	1	-	1
Tuberculosis of the respiratory system.	2	2	4
Other tuberculous diseases	1	1	2
Cancer, malignant disease	1	5	6
Diabetes	-	2	2
Cerebral haemorrhage	3	3	6
Heart Disease	2	1	3
Bronchitis	1	3	4
Pneumonia (all forms)	-	1	1
Other respiratory diseases	-	1	1
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	-	2	2
Acute and chronic nephritis	2	1	3
Congenital debility and malformation, premature birth.	1	-	1
Suicide	1	1	2
Other deaths from violence	2	2	4
Other defined diseases	7	3	10
	<hr/> 25	<hr/> 28	<hr/> 53

(Sgd) T.P.Thomas  
Medical Officer of Health.

19.6.26..

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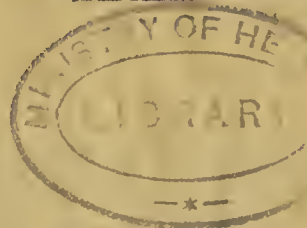
BRECON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

WELSH BOARD OF HEALTH  
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22 JUN 1926

A.

Supplementary Report  
1925.



### Sanitary Inspection.

Sanitary remedial measures in connection with nuisances arising from defective drainage and sanitary fittings have been effected in the case of 32 dwelling houses.

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### Slaughter House.

The unsatisfactory conditions alluded to were:-

- (1) An earth closet used by the slaughtermen - this is about to be remedied as the Corporation have agreed to the construction of a proper water closet with requisite drainage to sewer.
- (2) Lairing of animals in wrong compartments and for too long periods, by the butchers - this matter has come before the Butchers Committee and is being remedied.
- (3) Improvement in the whiteliming arrangements needed - is to be done by direct labour instead of by contract.
- (4) Insufficient facilities for storing hides and horns - the Council, are contemplating erecting a special building at a distance from the meat cooling houses, for this purpose.

### Milk Supply.

Periodical inspections are made of the dairies and cowsheds in the Borough and many improvements have been effected under notice from the Local Authority. Samples of milk are taken by the County Council Official.





### Schools and Febr Law.

Not administered by Borough Council excepting the periodical inspection of the Sanitary arrangements of Schools.

### Rivers and Streams.

There is some slight pollution of rivers, during the summer months, when the River Honddu is low on account of house refuse being deposited therein and also by reason of the tar spraying of roads.

### Scavenging.

Is carried out by direct labour under the control of the Borough Surveyor - daily in the principal parts of the Town and twice weekly in all the outskirts.

### Meat Inspection.

Systematic inspection of meat at the public abattoir, shops and market are made. 80 lbs. of beef were destroyed during the year.

Causes of death. The following table gives the causes of death during the year:-

<u>Causes of death.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Whooping Cough	1	-	1
Diphtheria	1	-	1
Tuberculosis of the respiratory system	2	2	4
Other tuberculous diseases	1	1	2
Cancer, malignant disease	1	5	6
Diabetes	-	2	2
Cerebral haemorrhage	3	3	6
Heart disease	2	1	3
Bronchitis	1	3	4
Pneumonia (all forms)	-	1	1
Other respiratory diseases	-	1	1
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	-	2	2
Acute and chronic nephritis	2	1	3
Congenital debility and malformation, premature birth	1	-	1
Suicide	1	1	2
Other deaths from violence	2	2	4
Other defined diseases	7	3	10
	25	28	53

T. P. Thomas.

Medical Officer of Health.

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